

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUCAR 00416 192014Z

ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7516

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 0416

NODIS CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XF RO

SUBJ: CEAUSESCU REQUEST FOR SECRETARY-PUNGAN MEETING

1. ROMANIAN PARTY SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS STEFAN ANDREI ASKED ME TO CALL ON HIM FOR TETE-A-TETE CONVERSATION AT 1615 GMT ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU.

2. HE SAID CEAUSESCU WISHED TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR LATEST BRIEFING ON ME SITUATION, WHICH I CONVEYED ON YOUR INSTRUCTION TO DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER THIS MORNING, AND TO TELL YOU THAT ROMANIANS SHARE OUR CONCERNS AND ARE ENGAGED IN PARALLEL EFFORTS TO MOVE PEACE PROCESS FORWARD.

3. IN PURSUIT OF THESE EFFORTS, ANDREI SAID, CEAUSESVM IS SENDING CHIEF PRSEIDENTIAL COUNSELOR VASIL PUNGAN TO JERUSALEM AND CAIRO, LEAVING BUCHAREST TOMORROW MORNING JANUARY 20, AND PROPOSES THAT PUNGAN MEET WITH YOU UNOFFICIALLY AND CONFIDENTIALLY FOR AN EXCHANGE IN EITHER CITY.

4. WHEN I ASKED WHAT REACTION WOULD BE SHOULD SCHEDULING DIFFICULTIES APPEAR TO CALL FOR MEETING WITH ANOTHER RESPONSIBLE U.S. OFFICIAL, ANDRI SAID CAUSESCU PREFERS TO KEEP CONTACTS WITHIN AS NARROW A CIRCLE AS POSSIBLE, AND IS PROPOSING UNOFFICIAL AND CONFIDENTIAL MEETING WITH YOU FOR THAT REASON.
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PAGE 02 BUCAR 00416 192014Z

5. YOU WILL RECALL THAT PUNGAN WAS CEAUSESCU'S EMISSARY TO PRESIDENT CARTER LAST FEBRUARY, AND HAS SERVED MORE RECENTLY, LAST NOVEMBER, AS EMISSARY TO ASSAD AND PLO. FURTHER, HE IS FULLY CONVERSANT WITH CEAUSESCU'S TALKS LAST WEEK WITH BEGIN'S CH CHEF DE CABINET BEN LIEZAR AND WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS PESIDENT PHILLIP KLUTZNICK (AT WHICH ANDRI WAS ALSO

PRESENT), AND THUS PRIVY TO WHOLE WIDE RANGE OF RECENT ACTIVE CONTACTS BETWEEN ROMANIANS AND ME PARTIES.

6. ANDREI ASKED ME TO CALL HIM WITH YOUR RESPONSE TOMORROW.

7. I SUSPECT THAT ROLE ROMANIANS AND PUNGAN PERSONALLY HAVE PLAYED SINCE LAST FALL IN CATALYZING ME PROGRESS WILL MAKE HIM A VALID INTERLOCUTOR FOR YOU (I STRONGLY URGE THAT YOU MEET WITH HIM IF YOUR SCHEDULE PERMITS AT ALL.) PLEASE ADVISE.
AGGREY

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Message Attributes

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